

MYTHBUSTERS

Community Health Myth Busters!

A series on the myths related to legal and illegal drugs.

The Myth Busters Series will be held Wednesdays, May 4 and June 1, 2016 at **Greenwich Town Hall, 101 Field Point Road** in the **Cone Room** from **7:00pm to 8:30pm**.

May 4: Opiates, Heroin and What's Available "OTC" and in Your Medicine Cabinet

Guest Speakers



Jeremy Barowsky, M.D., Psychiatrist

Dr. Jeremy Barowsky is the Medical Director of Addiction Medicine at Greenwich Hospital. Dr. Barowsky treats individuals struggling with both psychiatric and substance use disorders. Dr. Barowsky is a Harvard trained psychiatrist who is double-boarded by both the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the American Board of Addiction Medicine.



Reverend Debra Slade, BCC

Rev. Debra Slade is the Director of Spiritual Care and Clinical Pastoral Education at Norwalk Hospital and Vicar of St. Francis Episcopal Church in Stamford. She is interested in the connections between spirituality and mental health and currently serves as Acting President of the Southwest Regional Mental Health Board, a nonprofit working to ensure a high-quality mental health system for the residents of Southwestern CT. She holds a Master's of Divinity from Yale Divinity School and a law degree from Oxford University, where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar. Prior to her work in spiritual care she worked for 15 years as a not-for-profit executive in the field of urology.

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Opioids are a class of drugs that includes heroin and prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, fentanyl and others. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports:

- ✓ Opiate abuse and opiate addiction cost Americans over \$484 billion annually.
- ✓ Opiate abuse and addiction is linked to at least 50 percent of the major crimes in the United States.
- ✓ Of the 21.5 million Americans 12 or older with a substance use disorder in 2014, 1.9 million involved prescription pain relievers and 586,000 involved heroin.
- ✓ According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heroin use in the United States jumped 63% between 2002 and 2013, with increases seen among all age groups and all income levels. As many as three out of four people abusing prescription drugs obtained them from a friend or family member.

The next Myth Busters event will be:

June 1: Street and Synthetic Drugs, E-cigarettes, Vaping and Hookah

For more information or to RSVP please email: partnership@gchip.org